

The Library Connection online newsletter provides the public with information about upcoming events, major programs and other news of the City of San Diego Public Library. Anyone can sign up for this free monthly email announcement by visiting the Library on the City's web site at www.sandiego.gov/public-library and clicking on "News & Events."

DECEMBER 2003

VOLUME 1

City to Receive \$3.5 million to Build New Skyline Hills Branch

On Nov. 17, the City received a donation of \$750,000 from The San Diego Foundation's Hervey Family Fund that will help build a new Skyline Hills/Page Branch Library. The donation was the first installment of a \$3.5 million gift.

The library will be named after the late Mae Bell Page, who lived in the Skyline Hills area and was a former employee of the Hervey family. The San Diego Foundation's Hervey Family Fund also donated \$5 million to build the new Point Loma/Hervey Branch Library that opened in September.

The new \$11.6 million Skyline Hills branch will be a 19,400 square foot facility located on Paradise Valley Road. The building will consist of a new 15,000-square-foot library and current, 4,400-square-foot facility, which will be completely renovated into a meeting facility with a kitchen. The site is an L-shaped lot of approximately 3 acres. The building entrance will be on the Paradise Valley Road adjacent to a large parking lot for 130 cars. A bus stop will be integrated with the design.

The branch will include a children's area, a multilingual collection of materials and a computer center, as well as large book and audio-visual collections and periodicals. The



There was much to celebrate following the Nov. 17 City Council meeting. From left, Deputy City Manager Bruce Herring, Matthew Hervey, Deborah Hoffmann of The San Diego Foundation, and City Library Director Anna Tatár.

building itself will adhere to the City's "green" building criteria as an energy-saving facility. It will be constructed from easily replenished materials and materials made from recycled elements. The new facility will be one of 24 new or improved libraries that are being built throughout the City as part of a \$312.3 million program to rejuvenate San Diego's library system.

Authors Baron, Sacco and Moose to Appear at Libraries in December

Three special author events will take place at City libraries in December, featuring writers David Baron, Jack Sacco and Charles Moose.

In conjunction with Current Affairs Bookstore, **David Baron**, former science correspondent for National Public Radio and environmental writer, will discuss and sign copies of his new book, "The Beast in the Garden: A Modern Parable of Man and Nature," at the Carmel Mountain Branch Library on Dec. 2 at 7 p.m. The book focuses on a true story of Boulder, Colo., and what transpired when mountain lions returned to their ancestral home.

In another event in conjunction with Current Affairs Bookstore, former Montgomery County, Va., Police Chief **Charles A. Moose** will be discussing and signing copies of his book, "Three Weeks in October: The Manhunt for the Serial Sniper" at the Carmel Mountain Ranch Branch Library on Dec. 9 at 7 p.m. During the first three weeks of

October 2002, 14 random people were gunned down in the suburbs outside Washington, D.C., setting off the largest manhunt in American history. The book follows taut days and nights of the investigation

The Library also will host an appearance by **Jack Sacco**, author of "Where the Birds Never Sing: The True Story of the 92nd Signal Battalion and the Liberation of Dachau." The event will take place Dec. 13 at 2 p.m. in the third floor auditorium of the Central Library. "Where the Birds Never Sing" is Sacco's account of his father's World War II combat experiences at Normandy and the Battle of the Bulge; culminating in the liberation of the infamous Dachau concentration camp. It contains first-hand accounts and never-before-published photographs documenting one man's transformation from farm boy to soldier to liberator. Sacco will be available for book signing following the presentation.

Free Preview Film Screening of "What I Want My Words to Do to You" to be Shown Dec. 7

The Central Library will host a preview screening of "What I Want My Words to Do to You" on Dec. 7 at 2 p.m. Winner of the Freedom of Expression Award at the 2003 Sundance Film Festival, "What I Want My Words to Do to You" focuses on a writing group led by internationally acclaimed playwright and activist Eve Ensler at the Bedford Hills Correctional Facility. Ensler's classes have given birth to a powerful writing community in which women from strikingly different strata of society, all of whom are serving long sentences, help each other tell their stories. Following the screening, librarians and staff of the Richard J. Donovan Correctional Facility will discuss their in-house literacy program. "What I Want My Words to Do to You" will be aired nationally on PBS later this year.

Filmmaker to Present Documentary on Big People's Eternal Efforts to Battle the Bulge

Filmmaker Wolfgang Hastert will present his documentary "Big Stories" at the Central Library on Dec. 8 at 6:30



Wolfgang Hastert

p.m. The film takes a gutsy but not sensation-seeking look into the drama of dieting and the lives of big people. It is a warmhearted film on big beautiful folks and their eternal battle of the bulge. No other country in the world is more obsessed with beauty and fitness culture than the United States and no other country suffers so much from the effects of obesity.

Hastert is an award-winning documentary filmmaker and cinematographer with more than 10 long-form documentaries to his credit. His films have all premiered on ARTE, the foremost arts and culture venue on European television. He will be available to discuss his film and answer questions from the audience.

Film Focuses on the Life of Civil Rights Leader Bayard Rustin

A film about the life of Civil Rights leader Bayard Rustin will be shown at the Valencia Park/Malcolm X Branch Library on Dec. 19 at 7 p.m. The film captures Rustin's commitment to justice and human rights, his brilliant intellect and charismatic personality, as well as the public scorn he faced from both black and white because of his openness about his sexual orientation. Presents a fascinating look at the role race, politics, and orientation play in American radicalism. Dr. Pat Washington, San Diego State University, will facilitate a discussion after the film. Dec. 19 at 7 p.m.

Coming Attractions



The Library regularly features a variety of movies, most of which are recent foreign or independent films that have not been widely distributed.

- Dec. 1 – "**Owning Mahowny**" (2003), Central Library, 6:30 p.m. A man in debt develops an ingenious plan to play a bank and a casino against each other.
- Dec. 7 – "**What I Want My Words to Do to You**" (2003), Central Library, 2 p.m. See accompanying story.
- Dec. 8 – "**Big Stories**," (2003), Central Library, 6:30 p.m. See accompanying story.
- Dec. 15 – "**House of Fools**" (2003), Central Library, 6:30 p.m. Based on a true story of psychiatric patients who become involved with the Chechen War after their doctors and attendants abandon them. In Russian with English subtitles.
- Dec. 17 – "**Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas**" (2000), Oak Park Branch, 6 p.m. The live action version of Dr. Seuss' holiday classic tale, featuring Jim Carrey.
- Dec. 19 – "**White Christmas**" (1954), Oak Park Branch, 6 p.m. The holiday classic, starring Bing Crosby and Danny Kaye, is a romantic tale that takes place in a Vermont lodge.
- Dec. 19 – "**Brother Outsider: The Life of Bayard Rustin**" (2002), Valencia Park/Malcolm X Branch, 7 p.m. See accompanying story.
- Dec. 21 – "**Together**" (2003), Central Library, 2 p.m. Born in an ordinary working class family, a young boy has developed a talent for the violin. His father takes him to Beijing to find a good teacher. While in the big city, the boy forms an unusual bond a nightclub girl. In Mandarin with English subtitles.
- Dec. 22 – "**Mondays in the Sun**" (2003), Central Library, 6:30 p.m. Unemployed dock workers looking for work after the local dock yard closes end up with little to do but drink and talk as they search for something new in their lives to help them retain a sense of dignity. In Spanish with English subtitles.

Life and Work of Da Vinci Portrayed in Play

Learn about the life and work of Leonardo Da Vinci through humorous skits presented by Biograppays at the Mountain View/Beckwourth Branch Library on Dec. 2. This entertaining and fact-filled 30-minute performance will teach students K-6 about the lives and times of artist and inventor. There will be two shows at 10 and 11 a.m. Reservations are required. Call 619-527-3404.

Variety of Music to be Performed Live at Five City Libraries

A variety of music concerts, ranging from jazz to classical to world, will be featured at City libraries in December. Below are the highlights:

- The duo of **Lori Bell**, flute, and **Ron Satterfield**, guitar, will perform jazz standards, Latin rhythms and original compositions at the Mission Valley Branch Library on Dec. 4 at 7 p.m. Both performers have received numerous Grammy nominations for their work. Program is free and seating is on a first-come, first-served basis.
- A special concert featuring "The Romance of Chopin" will be performed by pianist **Wayne McEvilly** on Dec. 6 at 2 p.m. in the Central Library's third floor auditorium. The program will include waltzes, etudes and nocturnes by Chopin. Free parking is available at the lot adjacent to the Library on Broadway and Eighth Avenue, courtesy of Five Star Parking.
- **Leonor Dely & Millero Congo** will perform a free concert outdoors at the City Heights/Weingart Branch Library's Performance Annex on Dec. 6 at 5 p.m. The band's influences are rooted in the African and Native American heritage of Latin America and a variety of musical styles from around the world. *The New York Times* hailed Dely's 2001 CD "Amame" as "a musical masterpiece throughout. A must for any world music enthusiast."
- Enjoy this free program featuring music by percussionist **Sayaka Mase** on Dec. 10 at 7 p.m. at the Carmel Valley Branch Library. The free family music program, sponsored by The Friends of the Library, will include several marimba solos, Bizet's "Carmen Suite," and Leroy Anderson's "Fiddle Faddle," along with several holiday songs arranged for marimba and piano. Sayaka Mase will be accompanied by pianist Miho Gary.
- Pianist **Maria Fomina** will perform music by Lisit, Prokofiev, and Chopin on Dec. 13 at 8 p.m. at the Carmel Valley Branch Library. She has performed in solo recitals and with symphony orchestras throughout Western Europe, Russia, and the United States. She is also a former winner of the California International Young Artists Competition and many others. Tickets are required: \$12 for adults and \$10 for students.
- The **Scripps Ranch Madrigal Singers** will perform traditional and contemporary holiday songs. Reception to follow in the Courtyard. In the Community Room. Dec. 14 at 2:30 p.m. at the Scripps Ranch Branch Library
- A holiday concert featuring, "Songs of the Season: a December of Jazz" will include jazz piano arrangements and re-interpretations of winter and holiday songs performed by **Vicki Norman** at the Central Library on Dec. 18 at 7:30 p.m. and Dec. 20 at 2:30 p.m.



Libraries Closed Dec. 25 and Jan. 1

All City libraries will be closed on Thursday, Dec. 25, in observance of Christmas Day; and Thursday, Jan. 1, in observance of New Year's Day. In addition, hours at some libraries may be reduced between Dec. 24 and Jan. 2. Please contact your local library for more information. There will be no meeting of the Board of Library Commissioners in December. The board's next scheduled meeting will be Wednesday, Jan. 7.

Puppets, Puppets, We've Got Puppets

Libraries will come alive in December with puppet shows. On Dec. 10, local author and educator Carolyn Marsden will present a puppet show at 4 p.m. at the University Community Branch Library. The puppet show will be based on her newest book, "Mama Had to Work on Christmas." Afterwards, children will make holiday cards and be served Mexican hot chocolate with cinnamon and Mexican cookies. The L.A. Puppet Professionals will present "The Legend of St. Nicholas" on Dec. 17 at 4 p.m. at the Carmel Valley Branch Library. The show tells the story of a young boy named Nicholas who learns the importance of sharing from his forest animal friends.

Two Special Versions of "The Nutcracker"

The Library will present two very different versions of the holiday classic "The Nutcracker," both on the same day: Dec. 16. Puppet bears of various shapes and sizes will dance, march and frolic to Tchaikovsky's well-loved music at 10 a.m. at the North Park Branch Library. At 7 p.m., the Music Box Storytellers will perform another version of this well-loved story with lots of humor and audience participation at the Mission Valley Branch Library, 2123 Fenton Parkway.

Bennie Herron to be Featured at Open Mic Event

"Expressions Unlimited: Open Mic Jam Sessions for the Performing Arts" is a celebration of poetry, spoken word, and the performing arts at the Valencia Park/Malcolm X Branch Library, 5148 Market St. The events are held the second and fourth Wednesday of each month. All forms of spoken word and artistic expressions are welcome and unlimited. On Dec. 10 at 6 p.m., guest host Victor Patton will animate the sharing and stimulate the communal spirit. The featured artist will be Bennie Herron of the Taco Shop Poets.

Even More Great Events and Programs!

For the very latest information about Library events, exhibits, activities and other programs, visit your local library or check out the Library on the City's web site at www.sandiego.gov/public-library.

